

BRAZIL

SECTOR: Education

PROJECT NAME: Technical and Vocational Education Reform Program
(1052/OC-BR)

TOTAL COST: \$500 million

FINANCING:

IDB	\$250 million
LOCAL	\$250 million

DATE OF APPROVAL: November 5, 1997

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: The program will support the establishment of an effective vocational education system to train young people and adults through nonuniversity post-secondary, basic extension and other courses. It will also include preparation for secondary education reform, dissemination of new curriculum, and development of strategic plans to upgrade and expand secondary education at the state level. The program consists of two subprograms: (a) general policy implementation; and (b) investment projects.

The first subprogram contains four components:

- (a) administrative development;
- (b) technical and pedagogical development;
- (c) human resource development; and
- (d) other development.

Administrative development consists of analyzing and strengthening the Department of Secondary and Technological Education, developing a vocational education information system, graduate follow-up, and developing a school management model. Technical and pedagogical development includes studies of the job market to guide investments in technical schools, design of basic curricular models for each vocational area, and support for skills certification. Human resources development includes professional development for technical school teaching staff, courses related to curricular adjustments, training in school administration, and international seminars and technical visits abroad by principals and teachers to promote the exchange of ideas and knowledge. The final component consists of a communications plan, a follow-up study on pilot schools, and central studies on secondary education. The second subprogram contains two components:

CONSULTANTS:

Consultants will be hired to carry out the following activities: (a) institutional analysis of the structure, functions and strengthening needs of the Secondary Education and Technology Branch (SEMTEC); (b) design and implementation of a vocational education information system; (c) development of proposals for new legal and regulatory frameworks for vocational schools; (d) preparation of strategic and operational management tools for human resources, budget and financing, and teaching; (e) development of mechanisms for integrating schools and businesses; (f) a study on the changes in employment levels by job category and gender; (g) development and application of methodologies for research in industrial, commercial and agricultural companies, as well as methodologies for determining job profiles and identifying the skills needed to perform them; (h) preparation of curricular guidelines for technical and vocational courses for industry, agriculture, commerce, and services; (i) establishment and dissemination of interactive mechanisms for developing curricula; (j) design of a skills certification and standardization system; (k) a pilot certification project in one industrial and two service areas, including a databank for each area; (l) short courses for 15,000 teachers on updating pedagogical skills in managing teaching aids, evaluation processes, use of educational resources, and upgrading technical knowledge; (m) courses on in-service training for 4,000 teachers; (n) courses for 260 administrators in data analysis and processing; (o) courses on curricular models for 1,260 teachers; (p) seminars for 1,000 education department heads to evaluate curricular guideline implementation; (q) specialized courses for 60 school principals in curricular management and market adaptation strategies; (r) three international seminars on vocational education reform, institutions, and technological processes and changes in the labor market; (s) seminars to disseminate the objectives of the reforms to vocational education program representatives, states, entrepreneurs, and the press; (t) an institutional campaign to publicize the reforms; (u) preparation of evaluation indicators for eight pilot schools; (v) initial evaluation of those schools and teams, as well as evaluation of the use of the manual and approved projects, semiannual evaluations on compliance with project implementation agreements and principles of the reforms, and final evaluation of the pilot projects; (w) identification and analysis of national and international curricular models; (x) description of classroom teaching processes; (y) identification of learning patterns of young people attending night school; (z) a study on the main variables determining secondary education efficiency; (aa) identification of teacher training needs; (bb) quantification of secondary education growth and identification of alternative financing methods; (cc) seminars to discuss curricular guidelines; (dd) design of vocational and secondary education plans, including identification of the current status of system elements, as well as the needs for legislative and policy changes, institutional strengthening,

dissemination activities, and upgrading;
(ee) development of proposals to transform existing
federal schools into technical schools; and
(ff) development of proposals to transform existing
state schools into technical schools, or to build new
schools.

GOODS AND EQUIPMENT: Equipment, furniture, educational materials, software,
reference works, and information and evaluation systems
will be procured for 200 schools. Videos, computer aids
and publications will be procured for the communications
plan.

CIVIL WORKS: The program will finance contracts for remodeling,
expansion and construction of 200 schools.

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